



Etz & Spark Interfaith Israel Tour

Experiencing the Best

February 29 - March 12, 2017

**SPECIAL GUEST:
RABBI ARI CARTUN**

**in the
WILDERNESS**

miDBaR “the wilds/wilderness” מִדְבָּר

mee-DBhaR “away-from thing(s)”
mee-DBaR “speaking-place”

What is a wilderness?
Deuteronomy 32:10

מִצְאֵהוּ
בְּאֶרֶץ מִדְבָּר וּבְתוֹהוּ יַלֵּל יִשְׁמֹן
יִסְבְּכְנֶהוּ וְיִבְנֶנְהוּ יִצְרָנְהוּ
כִּאִשׁוֹן עֵינָיו.

[G0d] found [Israel]

b'éretz midbár in a **wilderness/midbár land/b'éretz,**
uva-tóhu y'leil y'shimón & in a **desolate/y'shimón, howling/y'leil**
waste/tóhu;

[G0d] encompassed [Israel],
instructed [Israel],
formed [Israel] as the apple of (“little man of”) [G0d’s] eye.

How the Tōrah's Books End

Genesis 50:26 gematria:
 וַיָּמָת יוֹסֵף בְּרֵמָזָה וְעָשָׂר שָׁנִים וַיַּחַנְטוּ אֹתוֹ וַיִּשְׂשֵׂם בְּאֵרוֹן בְּמִצְרַיִם: פ
 So Joseph died, 110 years old; & they mummified him, & put him in a coffin in Egypt.

Exodus 40:38 gematria:
 כִּי עָנָן יְהוָה עָלֶיהֶם שָׁכֵן יוֹמָם וְאֵשׁ תִּהְיֶה לַיְלָה בּוֹ לְעֵינֵי כָל־בְּנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּכָל־מַסְעֵיהֶם: פ
 GōD's cloud [of glory] was over the *Mishkan* (portable sanctuary) by day, and fire was on it by night, in front of ("to the eyes of") all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys.

Leviticus 27:34 (backwards gematria: 7,20; 4,30)
 אֵלֶּה הַמִּצְוֹת אֲשֶׁר צִוָּה יְהוָה אֶת־מֹשֶׁה אֶל־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּהַר סִינַי: פ
 These are the *mitzvot*, which GōD commanded Moses for Israel's heirs at Mount Sinai.

Numbers 36:13 gematria:
 אֵלֶּה הַמִּצְוֹת וְהַמִּשְׁפָּטִים אֲשֶׁר צִוָּה יְהוָה בְּיַד־מֹשֶׁה אֶל־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּעִבְרַת מוֹאָב עַל יַרְדֵּן יְרֵחוֹ: פ
 These are the *mitzvot* and the judgments which GōD commanded "by the hand of" (through) Moses to Israel's heirs on the steppes of Mo'Av by the Jordan (Yarden), near Jericho (Y'richo).

Deuteronomy 34:(10)-12 gematria:
 וְלֹא־קָם נָבִיא עוֹד בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל כַּמֹּשֶׁה אֲשֶׁר יָדָעוּ יְהוָה פָּנִים אֶל־פָּנִים: :::
 וְלֹכַל הַיָּד הַתְּזִיקָה וְלֹכַל הַמוֹרָא הַגָּדוֹל אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה מֹשֶׁה לְעֵינֵי כָל־יִשְׂרָאֵל: פ
 Another prophet like Moses never arose among Israel, whom GōD knew "face to face"... with all the power ("mighty hand"), & all the awesomely great deeds which Moses did in front of ("to the eyes of") all Israel.

Rebelling in The Book of Numbers

Why so many censuses in "Numbers?"
 The people are counted again and again because again and again they keep being weeded out for running the wrong way, and to know how many fighters there were for an army.

13	5	Sotah straying from marriage or into jealousy
12	6	Nazir ("crowning") self-guarded <i>natur</i> from societal tainting
14	9:1-14	A 2nd Passover? A sacrificial exception for those tainted last Pesach <i>Resolved peacefully and successfully</i>
11	11:1-3	Tav'eirah kvetching people burned up
10	11:4-35	Qivroth haTa'avah Cravings' Graves Quail <i>AsafSuf</i> GreatGathering began to crave more than monotonous manna <i>Moses' Prophecy Shared among the 70 (72) Elders</i>
15		Eldad and Medad too Quail , they died with it still stuck in their teeth. Cravings' Graves
9	12:1-16	Miryam and aHarOn rebel against Mosheh "the most humble" <i>Over his prophetic supremacy & his Kushite wife</i> The black woman (?) remark repaid with a leprously white Miryam aHarOn forced to pray to Mosheh to spare Miryam ("the prophet")
8	13-14, 15:37-41	10 scared Scouts cause all adult Israel to lose a life on the land TZITit -blossom/fringe a reminder not to Scout out error
7	15:32-36	(like a tzitz) making woodstraw (<i>m'qosheish eitzeem</i>) on shabbat
6	16:1-17:5	Great Revolt of Qorach, Dathan, AviRam, & Reubeni, 250 machers

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6	16:1-17:5	Great Revolt of Qorach, Dathan, AviRam, & Reubeni, 250 machers Who will lead? 1 st Born Tribe? A different Levi? A Self-made person?
5	17:6-15	aHarOn incenses a wall to stop the plague
4	17:16-18:3	Tzitz aHarOn: the Chosen Kohein's staff blossoms
16	17:27,28 18:1-3ff	But will we die if we approach the Mishkan? No. Kohanim will guard u and assume liability for your safety.
3	20:1-13	Following Miryam's death, Mosheh and aHarOn judged at the well called M'rivah Strife (v13)
2	21:4-9	BurnSnakes and N'chushtan The Bronze Serpent (see 2 Kings 18:4)
1	25:1-16;31	Ba'al P'or, Zimri&Kozbi, Pinchas & Raiding the Midyanites
17	27:1-11;	Tz'lofchad's Daughters #1 lawful challenge to the law of inheritances for daughters, <i>Resolved peacefully and successfully</i>
18		Mosheh commanded to hand leadership over to Joshua (Y'h0shu'ah) <i>Resolved peacefully and successfully</i>
19	31:25-54	Sharing spoils from the Mo'Avite/Midianite War <i>Resolved peacefully and successfully</i>
20	32	2 ½ Tribes stay in Bashan, do not inherit within the allotted land <i>Resolved peacefully and successfully</i>
21	36 end of Num.	Tz'lofchad's Daughters #2 a logical follow-up for tribal lineages <i>Resolved peacefully and successfully</i>